

Masaaki YOKOYAMA, *et al.*  
Atty. Dkt.: Q97512  
Preliminary Amendment  
Page 6

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-16 are pending in the above-referenced Application. The claims have been amended to eliminate the multiple dependencies thereof. The public should be advised that the present Preliminary Amendment is not considered or intended to be a narrowing amendment surrendering any equivalents.

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
John T. Callahan  
Registration No. 32,607

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
23373  
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 28, 2006